



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region

Robert Schneider, Chair



Ferry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

Sacramento Main Office
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<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5>

Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

3 September 2004

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION STORM WATER PERMIT, RAINY SEASON PREPARATION REMINDER

Dear Project Owner/Developer:

As a current permittee under the statewide General Construction Storm Water Permit you are responsible throughout the year for preventing pollutants from leaving your construction site. This becomes particularly important as we approach the "wet weather" season in the Central Valley, all construction sites must have adequate control measures in place to prevent the discharge of sediment and other pollutants to our streams and rivers.

It is your responsibility, as the owner and/or developer, to comply with all of the requirements of the General Construction Storm Water Permit. You and your contractors should review your Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to determine how you will implement effective best management practices for the fast approaching wet weather season. The SWPPP and SWPPP map should be up-to-date and remain on-site at all times during the construction project. It is important that erosion and sediment controls are in place prior to any storm event and that adequate controls are maintained throughout the rainy season. At a minimum, you should accomplish the following:

- Implement effective best management practices for all pollutants at your site, including those other than sediment. For example, implement appropriate best management practices for control of concrete and stucco waste, paint, fertilizers, soil amendments and other construction related pollutants.
- Implement an effective combination of erosion and sediment controls. Prevent erosion by stabilizing all disturbed soil, paying particular attention to exposed slopes. Back up erosion prevention measures with sediment control measures. Ensure all control measures are adequate, in place, and in operable condition.
- Conduct site inspections before, during extended storm events, and after each storm event to identify areas that may contribute to erosion and sediment problems or any other pollutant discharges. Determine during each inspection if additional control practices are needed and implement those practices as soon as possible. Document all inspection findings and actions taken in detailed, site-specific inspection reports. These reports must be maintained on-site for review.
- Maintain and repair all erosion prevention and sediment control measures throughout the season. Keep replacement supplies on hand and/or on site.
- Implement a Sampling and Analysis program for non-visible storm water pollutants. Sampling and Analysis guidance can be found at www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/ under Modifications to the Fact Sheet of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activities Order No. 99-08-DWQ. The recent modifications to the fact sheet have clarified the way the Sampling and Analysis requirements shall be implemented.

Note: if you are using soil amendments (such as lime, fly ash etc.) and they will be exposed to storm water you must implement a Sampling and Analysis program.

California Environmental Protection Agency

- Ensure all site personnel are trained in erosion prevention/ sediment control techniques, non-storm water management control and know their responsibilities under the General Construction Storm Water Permit.
- Immediately report to the Regional Board office any instances of sediment or other pollutant discharges from your construction site.

Failure to comply with the terms of the General Construction Storm Water Permit may result in enforcement action, including assessment of administrative civil liabilities of up to \$10,000 per day for violations of the terms and conditions of the Permit. Additional liability of up to \$10 per gallon of waste discharged, in excess of 1,000 gallons, may be assessed.

Be sure you are up-to-date regarding your responsibilities as a permittee under the General Construction Storm Water Permit. The General Construction Storm Water Permit was modified by the State Water Resources Control Board to include requirements for sampling and analysis. Copies of the permit are currently available on our statewide web site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/stormwtr/construction.htm>.

If you have questions about the information in this letter, please contact the Regional Board field inspection staff person responsible for your jurisdiction:

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WILLIAM J. MARSHALL, Chief
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cc: Storm Water Program Coordinators, Central Valley Region Phase I MS4 Dischargers
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MONITORING REQUIREMENTS FOR STORM WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS THAT UTILIZE CHEMICAL ADDITIVES TO ENHANCE SEDIMENTATION

Dear Project Owner/Developer:

Many developers in the Central Valley Region are using chemical systems to treat storm water discharges from their construction sites. These systems can be very effective in reducing the sediment in storm water runoff, but the additives used to enhance sedimentation also pose a potential risk to water quality. Specifically, we are concerned about the potential acute and chronic impacts that the polymers and other chemical additives may have on aquatic life in surface waters. Polymers released from chemical treatment systems have created significant environmental harm and resulted in enforcement actions by the California Department of Fish and Game and the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

art D.5. of the statewide General Construction Storm Water Permit provides the Regional Boards authority to require additional monitoring and reporting program requirements where appropriate.

In the Central Valley Region, all construction projects that utilize chemical additives to enhance sedimentation must prepare and implement monitoring plans for discharges to surface waters.

At a minimum your plan must include:

- Analysis for the chemical additive and any known by-products.
- Monitoring to ensure the treatment system has a functional polishing filter.
- The overall monitoring program must demonstrate that the discharges will not lead to toxicity or other violations of water quality objectives.
- The monitoring plan and the results of the monitoring efforts shall be kept with the SWPPP.

If you have questions about the information in this letter, please contact the Regional Board field inspection staff person responsible for your jurisdiction.

WILLIAM J. MARSHALL, Chief
Storm Water Section